

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 ANKARA 00170 081535Z

47

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07

FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03

SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15

STR-04 CEA-01 DOTE-00 /090 W

----- 018841

R 081452Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 1926

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ANKARA 0170

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, ELTN, TU, IR

SUBJECT: TURKISH FEES ON TRUCKS IN TRANSIT

REF: (A) TEHRAN 0094 (B) TEHRAN 0121

1. NEW TURKISH TRANSIT FEES SCHEDULED TO TAKE EFFECT JANUARY 7 WERE PUBLISHED IN OFFICIAL GAZETTE AS COUNCIL OF MINISTERS DECREE ON DECEMBER 23, 1975. ENGLISH TRANSLATION OF TEXT NOT YET AVAILABLE. HOWEVER, WE NOTE THAT EMBASSY TEHRAN (REFTEL B) HAS RECEIVED TEXT OF GOT DECREE FROM TURKISH EMBASSY.

2. DECREE RECEIVED NO PRESS OR PUBLIC ATTENTION UNTIL LAST COUPLE OF DAYS. HOWEVER, RECENT PRESS REPORTS HAVE FOCUSED ON INCREASE ON IRAN'S LIKELY REFUSAL TO BEAR SUCH HIGH FEES, AND ON POSSIBILITY THAT INCREASE HAS PLACED IN JEOPARDY IMPLEMENTATION OF \$1.2 BILLION FRAME AGREEMENT WITH IRAN. IRAN EMBASSY, ANKARA, WAS QUOTED AS SAYING THAT DECREE WAS UNDER REVIEW IN TEHRAN BUT THAT DECREE DOES NOT RPT NOT AFFECT GOI AS GOI DOES NOT RPT NOT RUN TIR TRUCKS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 ANKARA 00170 081535Z

3. EMBASSY NOT AWARE OF HOW CAREFULLY GOT WEIGHED
POSSIBLE REPERCUSSIONS ON \$1.2 BILLION FRAME AGREEMENT
WHEN APPROVING INCREASE IN TRANSIT FEES. TURKS MAY EVEN
SEE NEW DECREE AS METHOD OF PRESSURING IRANIANS TO SIGN
TRANSIT TREATY OR TO MOVE MORE RAPIDLY ON IMPLEMENTATION
OF FRAME AGREEMENT. MORE LIKELY HOWEVER DECREE IS IN
RESPONSE TO DOMESTIC CONSIDERATIONS. DECREE HAS BEEN IN
DRAFT FOR SOME MONTHS AND TURKEY HAS BEEN DETERMINED FOR
SOME TIME TO MAKE TIR TRUCKS TRANSITTING TURKEY TO AND
FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES BEAR FAIR SHARE OF ROAD MAINTEN-
ANCE, PARTICULARLY AS RELATIVELY HEAVIER WEIGHT OF TIR VEHICLES
CONTRIBUTES TO MORE RAPID DETERIORATION OF ROADS. AS TIR TRAFFIC
TO IRAN HAS RISEN FROM SOME 10,000 TRUCKS IN 1973 TO
45-50,000 IN 1975, TURKEY BELATEDLY REALIZED THAT ITS
ROADS WERE NOT ADEQUATE FOR THE TRAFFIC AND THAT THE
COUNTRY'S NOMINAL TRANSIT FEE SCHEDULES COULD BE RAISED
TO BRING IN MORE FOREIGN EXCHANGE. IN ADDITION, THERE
IS LINGERING RESENTMENT AND SUSPICION THAT TURKISH TRUCKS
AND DRIVERS DO NOT GET THEIR "FAIR SHARE" OF TIR TRANSPORT.
THIS BOILED OVER PARTICULARLY WITH REGARD TO THE RECENT
IRAN-BULGARIA AGREEMENT TO SET UP A JOINT-VENTURE WITH 1,000 HEAVY
TRUCKS FOR TIR TRANSPORT. TURKS GENERALLY CLAIM THIS WAS POLITICAL
DEAL OF SHAH WHICH TOTALLY IGNORED TURKEY'S MUCH MORE CRIT-
ICAL GEOGRAPHICAL POSITION AT LEAST IN RELATION TO TIR
TRANSPORT.

4. WHILE NEW SCHEDULE CANNOT BE CHANGED EXCEPT BY OTHER
MINISTERIAL DECREE, DECREE DOES PERMIT MINISTRY OF TRANS-
PORT TO RAISE OR LOWER TARIFFS BY 30 O/O ON ITS OWN INITIATIVE.
IT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WHETHER THIS WILL PERMIT A SUFFICIENT
COMPROMISE, IF THIS ISSUE DOES IN FACT CONSTITUTE AN
IRRITANT TO TURKISH-IRANIAN RELATIONS.
MACOMBER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRUCKS, SPECIFIC DUTIES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 08 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ANKARA00170
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760007-0045
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760177/aaaacqox.tel
Line Count: 94
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 TEHRAN 94, 76 TEHRAN 121
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <09 JUN 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH FEES ON TRUCKS IN TRANSIT
TAGS: ETRD, ELTN, TU, IR
To: TEHRAN
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006